Education Sector PROJECT PROFILE

April 2012



370 kindergartens will be renovated and furnished by the end of 2014.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Implemented by: Creative Associates International, Inc.

Duration & Total Funding: Phase I: \$32 million, 2005-2008 Phase II: \$50 million, 2009-2014

Beneficiaries: Public school students in KG-Grade 12, their teachers, administrators and communities; Ministry of Education decision-makers

Geographic Coverage: Nationwide

Education Reform Support Program

BACKGROUND

In July 2003, the Government of Jordan launched the five-year, \$380 million Education Reform for the Knowledge Economy (ERfKE) initiative. The goal of Jordan's education reform program is to re-orient education policy, restructure education programs and practices, improve physical learning environments, and provide improved and more accessible early childhood education. As a lead supporter among the nine donors funding the program, USAID provided \$32 million between 2004 and 2008 through its ERfKE Support Project (ESP).

USAID is continuing its support to the Ministry's reform efforts under the second phase ERfKE. The follow-on Education Reform Support Program (ERSP) is continuing work in many of the same areas, but with greater emphasis on the quality delivery of education. The \$50 million five-year project began in May 2009. ERSP strengthens the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Education (MOE) to improve access, quality and relevance of education for Jordanian children and youth.

ACTIVITIES

- Early Childhood Education: refurbishing 370 kindergarten classrooms, training all kindergarten and grades 1-3 teachers, rolling-out the Parental Involvement initiative to all kindergarten classrooms and into grades 1-3, and building an effective quality assurance system.
- Youth, Technology and Careers: institutionalization of the School-to-Career program in 330 secondary schools, rolling-out the Management Information Stream (MIS) online curriculum to all MIS schools, renovating and equipping 36 schools' sports areas and introducing life skills through sports activities to 100 schools.
- Professional Development: building a comprehensive professional development program including induction training for new teachers, in-service training for teachers and leadership training for principals and supervisors; preparing a cadre of qualified Ministry trainers; and, training staff assigned to new USAID-constructed schools.
- Data-Driven Decision Making: enhancing skills at the school and field directorate levels in analyzing existing and relevant data to make better informed, data-driven decisions which improve learning outcomes.
- Institutionalization: assisting the Ministry of Education with implementation of all four components to ensure sustainability.



USAID has supported the training of 5,000 teachers and educators since 2003. ERSP will continue delivering training and professional development activities to reach over 10,000 teachers, approximately 2,500 principals and supervisors and will certify 444 trainers by 2014.

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PROGRESS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Renovated and furnished 140 kindergarten classrooms that are benefiting over 2,850 students.
- Established and equipped 4 regional ECE Training Centers.
- Trained 44 ECE trainers, 65 KG Parental Involvement Coordinators (PICs) and 49 G1-3 PICs to facilitate the national roll-out of the various ECE interventions and activities involving K-3 teachers.
- Trained 330 teachers on organizing and managing the KG physical environment.
- Trained 1,353 teachers, principals and Quality Assurance (QA) Directorate staff on the QA system and tools; the pilot audit showed that 57% of the sample of KGs met minimum quality standards.
- MIS-Online was approved by MOE and launched on EduWave for access by all grade 11 MIS students; the MIS-Online program is being implemented in 120 schools benefiting over 3,000 students.
- Equipped 71 Counselors' Offices and six Career Centers.
- Implementing School-to-Career activities in 188 schools benefiting around 33,230 students in grades 8-11.
- Implementing Life Skills through Sports in 44 schools, benefiting around 16,000 students in grades 8-11; renovated 23 sports areas.
- MOE officially accredited the In-Service and Principal Leadership professional development (PD) programs.
- Completed In-service training for more than 3,500 teachers and Leadership training for around 620 leaders from 154 schools in 18 directorates; currently training over 2,400 teachers and 440 leaders from 120 schools in 30 directorates.
- Trained around 1,800 new teachers; trained 312 MOE mentors to support new teachers.
- Trained 77 Ministry trainers; currently training 130 teachers and principals on the TOT program to become effective trainers.
- Providing capacity building and school-wide support to 15 USAID-funded Jordan Schools Project (JSP) schools.
- Developed a set of queries and correlations available to all schools that provide school status against current EMIS indicators. Initiated the pilot phase for data usage for decision making in 18 schools.
- Collaborating closely with the Ministry to support various reform efforts; specifically, developing standards for teachers, principals, and supervisors; designing a comprehensive leadership program; building a comprehensive training program for KG teachers; establishing a Teacher PD Policy Framework and operational plan; and improving accreditation requirements and strategies.

PARTNERS

- Creative Associates International, Inc. and its three partners: ChangeAgent for Arab Development and Education Reform (CADER), Save the Children and ASK for Human Capacity Building.
- Ministry of Education.